

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
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AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T STATE 165017

NODIS
LONDON FOR KINSOLVING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG

SUBJECT: ISRAELI CABINET RESPONSE: BRIEFING THE FRENCH

1. AMBASSADOR ATHERTON BRIEFED FRENCH AMBASSADOR
DELABOULAYE JUNE 23 ON THE ISRAELI CABINET'S RESPONSE AND
RELATED MATTERS. HIGHLIGHTS OF CONVERSATION FOLLOW FOR
YOUR INFORMATION:

2. ATHERTON SAID THAT WHILE THE ISRAELI RESPONSE DID NOT
REALLY ANSWER THE BASIC QUESTION, THE IMPORTANT THING NOW
IS TO GET THE PARTIES TALKING AGAIN. WE HAVE NOW ASKED THE
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EGYPTIANS TO PREPARE THEIR OWN SUGGESTIONS. WE WILL ALSO
PROPOSE A MEETING BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTERS DAYAN AND KAMBL,
WITH SECRETARY VANCE PRESENT, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE

EGYPTIANS WOULD BE PREPARED TO PRESENT THEIR SUGGESTIONS
THEN. WE WOULD NOT EXPECT DRAMATIC RESULTS FROM SUCH A MEETING

BUT EITHER SECRETARY VANCE OR ATHERTON MIGHT FOLLOW
UP WITH TRIPS TO THE MIDDLE EAST.

3. DELABOULAYE ASKED IF WE EXPECTED THE EGYPTIANS WOULD
PRESENT A PROPOSAL, AS SUCH. ATHERTON FELT IT QUITE LIKELY
THEY WOULD COME UP WITH SOMETHING THAT COULD BE CHARACTER-

IZED AS A COUNTERPROPOSAL, BUT HE DOUBTED IT WOULD BE AS
DETAILED AS THE BEGIN PLAN. NOR IS IT LIKELY THAT THE
EGYPTIANS WOULD GO MUCH BEYOND THEIR PREVIOUS FORMULATIONS
ON SELF-DETERMINATION AND WITHDRAWAL FROM THE WEST BANK,
BUT THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO PICK UP IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY
ON THE IDEA OF AN INTERIM PERIOD (OF LIMITED WEST BANK
AUTONOMY UNDER ISRAELI OCCUPATION).

4. DELABOULAYE ASKED IF THE U.S. WOULD PRESENT ITS OWN
PLAN. ATHERTON SAID THAT WHILE THERE MIGHT NEVER BE
ANYTHING THAT COULD CORRECTLY BE LABELED THE QUOTE
AMERICAN PROPOSAL UNQUOTE, WE WOULD DO WHAT WE COULD
TO CLOSE THE GAP BETWEEN THE PARTIES.

5. DELABOULAYE ASKED IF WE WERE KEEPING THE SOVIETS IN-
FORMED. ATHERTON NOTED THAT SECRETARY VANCE MEETS WITH
AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN FROM TIME TO TIME, AND THE SUBJECT
OF THE MIDDLE EAST USUALLY COMES UP.

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6. DELABOULAYE ASKED IF THE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DISCUSSIONS
WOULD EVENTUALLY BE BROADENED TO INCLUDE THE SYRIANS,
JORDANIANS, OR OTHERS. ATHERTON SAID THE ULTIMATE
OBJECTIVE OF OUR EFFORTS IS TO BROADEN THE NEGOTIATIONS
TO INCLUDE OTHER ARAB PARTIES LOOKING IN THE END TOWARD
A GENEVA-TYPE CONFERENCE. DELABOULAYE NOTED THAT THE
SOVIET ATTITUDE WOULD VARY SOMEWHAT, DEPENDING ON
WHETHER THEY UNDERSTOOD THAT IT IS THE U.S. INTENTION
TO RETURN TO GENEVA. VANCE

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